AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following after the title but before the heading "Field of the Invention" on p. 1 of the specification:

Priority

This application is a national stage application under 35 USC § 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/011435, filed October 12, 2004, claiming priority to United Kingdom Application No. GB 0323971.2, filed October 13, 2003, each of which is incorporated by reference into this application as if fully set forth herein.

Please amend the paragraph bridging p. 10 and p. 11 of the specification as follows:

In Fig. 1 can be seen an annulus 42 radially inside the radiopaque marker 40. This is the distender element, also radiopaque, and predestined to move distally relative to the guide catheter 30 and thereby stretch radially outwardly the material of the tapered tip 36, to distend the distal end orifice 38. The distender annulus is mounted radially outside a relatively short length of thin-walled tube 44. Bonded to this tube 44, for example, by welding or brazing or an adhesive composition, is a pusher shaft 46 which is a stainless steel hypotube. On the abluminal wall surface of the thin wall 44, abutting the distender annulus 42, and proximal to it, is a frusto-conical return cone 48. The purpose of this cone is as follows. In the event that the distender annulus 42 is urged distally too far, such that the distal end orifice 38 of the retrieval catheter 32 is spaced proximally from the proximal end of the distender annulus 42, then retraction of the distender annulus 42 back into the lumen of the retrieval catheter 30 would be prevented by the latching effect of the end annulus of the tip 36 of the catheter 30 on the proximal end face of the distender annulus 42. The return cone in making a stepless transmission from the abluminal surface of the distender annulus 42 to the abluminal surface of the tube 44, prevents this from happening. The return cone 48 is conveniently attached to the tube 44 using an adhesive composition.

Please insert the text after the heading "Claims" on p. 16 but before claim 1 as follows:

What is claimed is: